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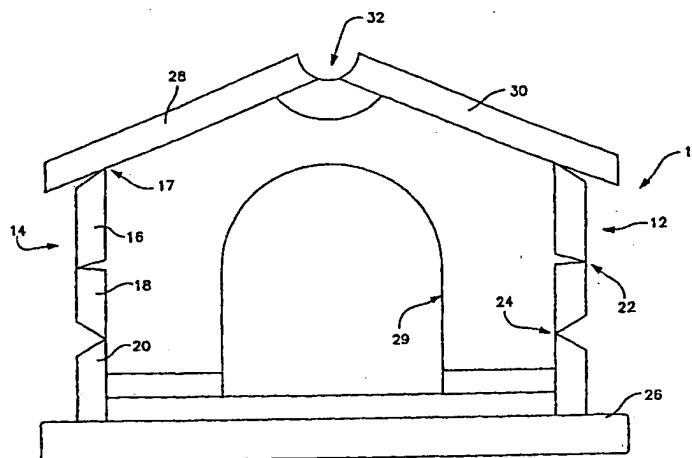
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(54) Title: FOLDABLE/COLLAPSIBLE STRUCTURES



## (57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a collapsible/foldable structure (10) suitable for a variety of applications, such as an animal shelter, pet carrier transportation device, or a collapsible consumer storage container in general, such as a cooler or ice chest. The structure (10) comprises a top roof (28 and 30) and bottom platform (26) defining a top and bottom of said structure and a vertically disposed lower side section (20) on the bottom platform (26). Front (29) and rear walls (34) are included. The structure (10) also includes a pair of sidewalls (12, 14) each pivotally attached to the roof (28, 30) to facilitate inward collapse of the sidewalls (12, 14) when the sidewalls (12, 14) are pivoted toward the bottom platform (26). The sidewalls (12, 14) are defined by an upper (16) and middle section (18) including the lower vertically disposed side section (20), wherein the upper (16) and middle section (18) are pivotally attached to one another and the middle (18) and lower sections (20) are pivotally attached to one another so that the upper (16) and middle sidewall sections (18) can be pivoted inwardly towards the bottom platform (26), to provide a compact collapsed condition.